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SUBJECT: TFIZ01: DART SITUATION REPORT 10 APRIL 2003

SUMMARY

1. The DART met with the newly established town council in Umm Qasr on 9 April. WFP will hold a meeting in Rome to discuss the current food pipeline for Iraq, including donor contributions and how the OFF may offset certain requirements as outlined in the U.N. consolidated appeal on 10 April. The DART APU met with the leadership of the CA Brigade responsible for public security in Iraq, and with representatives of the Free Iraqi Forces in separate meetings. END SUMMARY.

DART UPDATES FROM UMM QASR

2. The DART met with the newly established town council in Umm Qasr with the aim of assisting them in taking up their new responsibilities on 9 April. During the meeting, the supply of office equipment, repair of the partially damaged town hall, and assistance to the council in spreading a message of stability and peace were discussed. The DART will hold a follow-up meeting with the council on 12 April.

FOOD

3. On 10 April, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) will hold a high-level meeting in Rome to discuss the current food pipeline for Iraq, including donor contributions and how the Oil for Food (OFF) program, under United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1472, may offset certain requirements as outlined in the U.N. consolidated appeal. WFP staff from Larnaca will meet with WFP Executive Director Morris and Deputy Graisse. The purpose of the meeting will be to identify viable OFF contracts, the practicality of revalidating those contracts, and getting the food shipped within the 45-day timeframe laid out in UNSCR 1472. WFP will determine which commodities under current contracts are needed immediately and how to expedite their arrival. By close of business in Rome on 11 April, WFP will finalize an official letter to be released to the donors on 14 April that will incorporate feasible OFF contracts into the pipeline.

4. Even though UNSCR 1472 has passed, and the clock on the 45 days began ticking on 28 March, there remain many technicalities that must be clarified between the Office for Iraq Program (OIP) in New York and WFP. Until new procedures are clarified, the current OFF contracts and commodities cannot be assumed by WFP. WFP must renegotiate each contract with the supplier as previous contract details are null and void. Once a contract has been renegotiated, WFP must seek approval from OIP and negotiate the amount of associated costs that OIP will cover. WFP associated costs will be higher than those negotiated previously with the Government of Iraq (GOI), as the GOI staff were responsible for internal transport, storage, and milling costs. The UNSCR 45-day timeframe will also limit the number of contracts that will be viable. Finally, Phase XIII of the OFF expires on or about 6 June (a new phase begins every six months).

5. WFP program manager, Tarek Elguindi, is arriving in Kuwait on 10 April to assume management of the program aspects of OFF's public distribution system (PDS). Elguindi served as program manager of WFP/Iraq for nine months prior to the war. He is very familiar with the PDS and will move into Iraq as soon as security allows. He will be

accompanied by three to four junior WFP program managers. In addition, WFP's Deputy Regional Coordinator and Operations, Amer Daoudi, will arrive in Kuwait on 15 April. The DART's food officer in Larnaca will travel to Kuwait at the same time. Daoudi is coming to Kuwait to clarify operational responsibilities of WFP staff in Kuwait and lay out the plan for the coming weeks.

16. WFP will send two consultants to the region to assess the feasibility of using rail to transport commodities to and inside Iraq. One will go to Kuwait to check the rail between Umm Qasr and Baghdad, while the other will go to Syria to check the Syria to Iraq route.

17. WFP will post a milling expert to Kuwait to assess the functionality of the eleven mills in Basrah, Iraq when security permits. Three additional milling experts will follow.

ABUSE PREVENTION UNIT

18. On 7 April, the DART Abuse Prevention Unit (APU) met with the leadership of the Civil Affairs (CA) Brigade responsible for public security in Iraq. The Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance (ORHA) also participated in the meeting. All participants stressed the importance of strong interaction between the APU, ORHA, and CA units operating in Iraq. The APU also learned about a report from one Coalition-controlled village where the police stayed on the job and were allowed to keep their uniforms and weapons. At this moment, it is not clear in which town this took place, and the APU does not expect this to be a trend countrywide. CA representatives inquired about the potential role that the DART health team could play in assessing prison conditions throughout the country. The APU was also asked to assist in arranging future meetings between CA, the DART, and ORHA. Finally, the CA representatives suggested a joint CA/APU assessment in An Nasiriyah.

19. The APU also met with representatives of the Free Iraqi Forces (FIF) on 7 April. FIF offered its assistance in identifying potential flashpoints and providing technical expertise, including interpretation and liaison services, to the APU.

JONES